

A Terrible Sea-fight:

RELATED IN

The Copie of a Letter sent to I. M. Coun-
cellour, Pensioner, and Bailiffe to the Citie of

BATAVIA.

CONCERNING

The great fight betweene nine East India ships of the
Hollanders, and three great Gallions, which happened
about Goas Bare in the East Indies, the 20. 30.
of September, 1639.



LONDON,

Printed by *Thomas Harper*, for *Nathaniel Butter*.
1640.

With Privilege.

of the British Empire

RELATED IN

THE CHRONICLE OF THE

CHRONICLE OF THE

CHRONICLE OF THE

CHRONICLE OF THE

CHRONICLE OF THE

CHRONICLE OF THE

CHRONICLE OF THE

CHRONICLE OF THE



LONDON

Printed by Thomas Harper, for N. B. Smith

1840

W. B. Smith



A true relation of a great Sea-fight between
the Hollanders and Spaniards.

AFTER that we had set out sail from Batavia's Rode, the 15. 25. of Iuly, 1639. we have speedily performed our voyage (God be thanked) as farre as to the Baixos de Padua, which are very dangerous rockes and sands; but by the negligence of the Captains and Masters of the Pinaces, little Rotterdam and David, (which were sent out before to cast out every houre the lead) we were led with the whole Fleet towards the said rockes; insomuch that our Commander, looking out by day, upon the bank behinde the Gallerie, perceived a great alteration of the water; wherefore he charged his Pilot to cast out the lead, which having done, found first of all fourteene, afterwards nine, and at last six fadomes of water, that we could see some of the rockes lie under water. The Admirall perceiving this, made three or foure shots, to give warning to the Fleet, and that the Pinnaces should
come

come backe againe: And thus sailed back again from thence, as they came thither, thanking God Almighty for his gracious keeping and protection. From thence we set our course towards the Malabaerish coasts; which having got in sight, about Cananor, and Mont Fremosa, we sailed along the wall; where, in divers tides, we met with two small Vessells of Black-moores, but they had free passe of the Directour *Barent Pieters*, one whereof was bound for Cananor, & the other for Calicut, which advertised us, that Daman and Diu, being two strong Forts, and belonging to the Portugals, were besieged by the great Mogoll, and they beleevved that Daman was surrendered alreadye.

After that the foresaid Vessels had departed from our Commander, we went on again in our voyage, and the 18. 28. of September, about evening, came in sight of us about Goas Bare, the Pinnaces Armuyen and Valkenburg, which at night came aboard of the Admirall, relating unto him the newes, which they had received upon Wingurla; because they had arrived upon Wingurla about eleven or twelve daies before our comming. The next day after our Commander calling together the generall Counsell, communicated unto them that same, what he had understood by the Principalls of the foresaid Pinnaces; namely that three Gallions lay in the Bay of

of Goa Velle, under favour and safeguard of the Fort
Mormagon, being not yet readie to go to sea & fight.
Further, he desired the Councell to consider upon,
what was best to do for the good and profit of the
Companie. After manie disputations and consultati-
ons, the Councell departed againe from aboard in
the evening, with order, that when the Commander,
two or three houres before day light, did light againe
a candle, they, together with the militarie Officers,
should come aboard againe of the Admirall. Having
met together again, they unanimoullie resolved to
surprize the enemye without delay, that he lay with
the Gallions under the protection and favour of the
Fort Mormagon, the greatest difficultie was, that we
knew not the depth or situation of the harbour:
wherefore order was given, that the Pinnace David
should betake it self to the right, and the Pinnace little
Rotterdam to the left hand, saile forward, and cast
continually out the lead: Having come close to the
walls, some boats were set out to cast out the lead
continually in like manner, and to give warning un-
to us.

Afterwards order was given, that the ship Zierick-
sea should saile out before: upon which the Com-
mander himselfe went: him followed Armuyen,
Valckenburg, Franiker, Bredamme, and the ships
New Harlem, and Middelburg, should come as nigh

as possibly they could; because the enemy lay so close under the wall, and the depth of the harbour was unknown unto us; and the said ships drew so deep water, and had also in them the Cargozen for Wingurla.

In this order about noon, with the sea winde, we sailed towards the enemy (being under sail, the Vice-commander *William Tiberius*, who did the same morning, was set without the ship) having come under the Fort, they shot most fiercely out of the Fort, upon the Fleet: but we answered them in like manner. Seeing those of the Fort verie perplext, and timerous, (because we were not above a Musket shot from the Fort) we sailed to and fro along a wall or trench, which was drawn towards another small Bulwark, from whence they made likewise some shots. Being come neere unto the ships, we found them to be the three great Gallions; namely, Bon Iesus, Bon Ventura, and S. Sebastian: Bon Ventura lay ready for to fight, but not readie for sailing: The other two had none or few Canons in them, lying yet without cariages, because they expected us not so soon: yet afterwards we heard, that many free men, together with some voluntiers, came out of Goa to afford their aid and helpe in the making ready of the aforesaid Gallions, thinking to come out against the Pinnaçes *Armuyen* and *Valkenburg*, which they had first

first perceived, but missed of it.

Zierick-sea sailing out before, passed by the Forts; and the ships Armuyen and Valckenburg in like manner. The Commander with his boat departing from the ship Zierick-sea, gave order, that Franiker and Bredamme should make towards the Gallion, Bon Ventura carrying about 80. brasse pieces of Ordnance, let their Anchors fall; from which Gallion they shot fiercely upon us, having come on the side of him, and being not halfe a Musket shot from it, they shot crosse thorow and thorow our Pinnace, that it looked like a window where the glasses are beaten out: And thus we continued above three hours long, shooting against the said Gallion; insomuch that the Pinnace Franiker received more shots then the whole Fleet together: All the Row horses, and pieces of Ordnance in the sterne were shot in pieces; insomuch that we could not make one shot more from the sterne against the enemy, what care soever I tooke, and what encouragement soever I gave to the remainder of our men (because I my selfe in person went continually to and fro, and the shipper was upon the deckes) for we had in that Pinnace about 20 men kild, and about 40 wounded; insomuch that after the fight, we had not men to man the boat: whereupon presently afterwards were sent unto us to aid us, 20 men from other ships. Amongst the dead were divers of our Officers; as namely, the upper Pilot, high boats-man, the Cooke,

build

C

the

the Cookes mate, Gunners mate, one or two Quarter masters : and all the other officers for the most part, wounded : Our shipper was hurt in his belly, in the head, and in one of his hands ; but (God be thanked) he hath recovered, and is now well againe, I scaped free with a blew blow, and some other small hurts, I cannot give sufficient thanks unto God Almighty for his gracious protection and keeping. Bredamme next to us received the most shots, the shipper *Iohn Symons Symein* was in the first beginning kild with a shot thorough his body.

Yet after this bloody fight God Almighty by his gracious help and assistance granted unto us the victory, unto whom is due all glory, praise, and thanksgiving now and for evermore.

The Pinnace little Rotterdam, whilst we were shooting against Bon Ventura, laid aboard the Gallion Bon Iesus, which lay before Bon Ventura, mastered the same, and set up the Princes Flagges ; because very few men were in her. Our Commander seeing this, went into the Gallion called Bon Iesus, and called to the Portugals in Bon Ventura, that they should have good quarter, if they would yeeld : whereunto they, as stout souldiers, would not condiscend nor heare of it upon no termes, but answered the Commander, that he should do his best : Whereupon our Commander gave order, that the Cable of Bon Iesus should be chopt off, which drove directly to the belly of Bon Ventura, so that his
blind

blind mast turned crosse our Bon Iesus. The Admirall asking them the second time, whether they would yeeld, or else he would fire them both; namely, Bon Iesus, and Bon Ventura. Whereupon they answered, that they would not yeeld: whereupon the Commander gave order, that Bon Ventura and Bon Iesus should be set on fire; notwithstanding they desisted not with their fierce shooting, till at last the fire got into the Gun-powder, and was blown up. Bon Iesus after that it was on fire, drove a little off from the other.

Whilst all this passed, the Gallion Saint Sebastian was likewise fired by the ship Armuyen: so that all three together at once were on fire, without the losse of any of our Pinnaces or ships, that the Generall and Councell of India had ordained the Pinnaces, Bre-damme, little Rotterdam and David for fire ships.

I am of opinion, if we should have laine with the Pinnace Franikert twenty paces neerer to the Gallion, it would likewise have been in danger to be blowne up, because our fore-mast, and some ropes were likewise blowne up into the aire; all our ropes and cords are spoiled, that they hung like cut yarne.

After that Bon Ventura was blown up, some boats have been in the Ferry-water, to knocke the Portugals in the head that lay in the water: yet after that they had kild some of them, our Commander bid them to give quarter; insomuch that we got prisoners above 100 men, about 50 white, and 50 Negroes, amongst which

were two or three Priests, and four Lords of the Crosse, or Fedalges : the Captaine of the Gallion was likewise taken up : our Commander entertaines the said Lords and Patres at his owne table in the Cabinet.

At night we tooke up again our Anchors, and sailed againe out of the Bay close under the Fort Mormagon, out of which divers shots were made, because they could very well see us by the flame of the burning Gallions : yet at last we got out of their shot, and cast Anchor within two or three leagues of the wall.

The upper Merchant, *Peter Bad-neighbour* is chosen by the Councell Vice-commander in place of the deceased *Tiberius*.

The second of October, new stile, sailing towards Wingurla, we met two saile of ships, after which we pursued with the whole Fleet ; but being our ships were so battered and spoyled, we were faine to desist from pursuing any further after them ; and order was given that we should goe with the Pinnace *Franiker* towards Wingurla, where we arrived the fourth of October. Afterwards came newes that the Pinnace *Bredamme* had driven a small vessell to the wall ; out of which the Portugals fled, and made the vessell to leake : yet the *Bredammes* boat comming in haste to it, got in to it, and kept it above water with pumping, till all the goods, consisting of Ivorie, or Elephants teeth, and other goods, were taken out of it, which were brought aboard

aboord of the Commanders ship. Another Gallion was pursued after the 2. 12. of October, by the Pinnace Armuyen, which the same night overtooke the Gallion; and after that our Pinnace had fought a good while with it, it gave the slip againe, and escaped. By nine prisoners taken by the Pinnace Armuyen with the boat of the said Gallion, we understand, that it had in her above 80 dead, but was manned with above 400 men, being the Gallion which went last yeare towards Damman: The other vessel that was chased to the wall, came out of Molambique. The 10. 10. of October, the ships Middelburg, Armuyen and Bredamme, received order to go towards Corcheyn to crosse there, and to lie in wait for the enemies vessels, which by this present might passe by Goa. The Vice-roy within Goa, is departed out of this life; in whose place by election, succeeds *Don Antonio Teles*, who last yeare was Admirall of the enemies Fleet. The said Vice-roy reports, that hee will come with all his Fregats about 60 in number to visit us, which we long to see.

There hath divers been aboard of the Admirall, a Priest borne at Antwerp, to treat about the releasing of the prisoners; but hitherto he hath effected nothing, what further herein will be done, time will shew. After the departure of the D. Caen, came hither upon Wingurla, a Mogoller, who was hired by the Portugals to massacre the great Governour *Mametb Radia*, together

together with all the *Hollanders*, and some of the
chiefest Merchants; for the execution whereof, hee
should be rewarded with eleven or twelve thousand
Pageden, who ended his life as followeth: The afore-
said Mogoller, with a traine of 25 persons, comming
into *Wingurla* him'selfe, together with another Mogol-
ler, sitting on horse-back, came before the lodging of
the great Governour *Mameth Radia*, who, at that time,
was come to *Wingurla* to view his Fregats: The Mo-
goller asking for him, was answered by the *Mameths*
servants, that he lay and slept. At which the Mogoller
replied, that he him'selfe must see it; who going with a-
nother towards his chamber, (becaule hee was well
knowne, and had been alwayes very familiar with the
Governour) opened the currains, and found him play-
ing with his childe. The Mogoller drawing his Sable,
chopt off one of his hands, thinking to turne off the
blow with it, as also gave him a great wound in the neck;
insomuch that he presently after died: From thence the
Mogoller rode towards the lodging, to massacre the
Netherlanders; hee was twice beaten backe from the
moat: In the mean time an *Alarme* role amongst the
Governours people, which flockt together about foure
hundred strong, kild fifteen or sixteen of the Mogol-
lers men, took prisoners three or foure. The Mogol-
ler betook him'selfe to flight; after whom they pursued
with their naked Sables: whereupon the said Mogoller
leaping.

leaping with his horse into the water, thinking to swim
over the river, was seen by some of the Governours
servants, which were in a house not farre from the
shore; they seeing their fellow-souldiers run with their
naked Sables after him, stopt him, and shot him with a
peece down from the horse, the rest gave him many
cuts and blowes after he was dead. Given at Wingur-
la, the 11. 21. of October. 1639. A. S.

Imprimatur

Philip. Minutolius.

Printed for Nath. Butter, August. 8. 1640.